



Pilgrim Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
Third Sunday of Lent
March 7, 2021

Music streamed in today's service

Schmücke dich, o liebe Seele (Soul, Adorn Thyself with Gladness) - Johannes Brahms
A Hymn for the Wilderness - Ken Bible
Let There Be Peace on Earth
Bread of the World - Pilgrim Hymnal #283
God of Grace and God of Glory - NCH #436
Jesus Keep Me Near The Cross - James Southbridge

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Today's service will be recorded.

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Prelude

Schmücke dich, o liebe Seele
(Soul, Adorn Thyself with Gladness)

Johannes Brahms

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Reebee Girash

Call to Worship

Goodness is stronger than evil;
Love is stronger than hate;
Light is stronger than darkness;
Life is stronger than death;
Victory is ours through God who loves us.
Amen!

Opening Prayer

Lord let your presence be in us, around us
breathing new life into us,
so that we may do this work you have called us to.
Now let the words of our mouths
and the meditation of our hearts be acceptable to you,
O LORD, our rock and our redeemer. Amen.

Opening Hymn

A Hymn for the Wilderness

1 I can't see where I'm going - Just wilderness ahead.
 This place is fierce and threat'ning - O God where have You led?
 But Egypt is behind me With all You've bro't me through,
 And now You go before me - I trust and follow You.

2 Your all-engulfing presence Is shade thro'out the day.
 Your fire ablaze above me Lights all my darkened way.
 Fresh water in my desert And bread each morning new-
 O tender, faithful Shepherd, I trust and follow You.

3 Thro' ev'ry daily challenge, With labors still undone,
 I follow in Your footsteps And take them one by one.
 Thro'out our great adventure I keep the Cloud in view,
 As all the way to Canaan I trust and follow You.

A Hymn for the Wilderness

TUNE: The Wabash Cannon Ball (alt.)
 Exodus; Deuteronomy 8:1-10; Psalm 105:37-45

Unison $\text{♩} = 60$ F F^A C F F F^{Eadd⁹} F^A B^b F^b B^b

1. I can't see where I'm go - ing- Just wil - der - ness a - head.
 2. Your all - en - gulf - ing pres - ence Is shade thro' - out the day.
 3. Thro' ev - 'ry dai - ly chal - lenge, With la - bors still un - done,

C C^{B^b} Gm⁹ Gm G^m D C C sus C^{B^b} C⁹ B^b F^A F^C F

This place is fierce and threat'ning- O God, where have You led?
 Your fire a-blaze a - bove me Lights all my dark-ened way.
 I fol - low in Your foot - steps And take them one by one.

C F F^A C F F F^{Eadd⁹} F^A B^b F^b B^b

But E - gypt is be - hind me With all You've bro't me through,
 Fresh wa - ter in my des - ert And bread each morn - ing new-
 Thro' - out our great ad - ven-ture I keep the Cloud in view,

Gm⁷ C Dm B^bM⁷ G^m B^b Gm C C⁹ C⁷ F F^C F

And now You go be - fore me- I trust and fol-low You.
 O ten - der, faith - ful Shep - herd, I trust and fol-low You.
 As all the way to Ca - naan I trust and fol-low You.

Since it was almost the Jewish Passover, Jesus went up to Jerusalem. 14In the Temple, he found people selling cattle, sheep and pigeons, while moneychangers sat at their counters. 15Making a whip out of cords, Jesus drove them all out of the Temple—even the cattle and sheep—and overturned the tables of the money changers, scattering their coins. 16Then he faced the pigeon sellers: “Take all this out of here! Stop turning God’s house into a market!” 17The disciples remembered the words of scripture: “Zeal for your house consumes me.” 18The Temple authorities intervened and said, “What sign can you show us to justify what you’ve done?” 19Jesus answered, “Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.” 20They retorted, “It has taken forty-six years to build this Temple, and you’re going to raise it up in three days?” 21But the temple he was speaking of was his body. 22It was only after Jesus had been raised from the dead that the disciples remembered this statement and believed the scripture—and the words that Jesus had spoken.

Sermon

Rev. Reebee Girash

Passing the Peace

Let There Be Peace on Earth

Prayers of the People

Rev. Reebee Girash

Pastoral Prayer

Invitation to the Offering

Sarah Fuller

Offertory

Max Evrard

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Doxology (#515 Red)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

or

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him all creatures here below.

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

Prayer of Dedication

Sarah Fuller

God, we want to follow all your commandments— to love only you, not worshiping the things of this world; to love our neighbor freely, not desiring for ourselves something they possess. Accept these offerings, we pray, and teach us to be generous, giving fully of ourselves that we may truly be the body of Christ in this world. Amen.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Invitation

Prayer of Confession

God of wilderness and water, Artist of souls, you have called us to a perfect mission, yet we have avoided that call. You have called us to come together as one, yet we have erected barriers between ourselves where none need be. You told us that we were made in Your image, yet we often act as though You were made in ours. And even so, You call us to a reconciled life, to healed relationship, to a wholeness with each other and with You. Mend us, we pray, and make us new creations. Through the power and love of Christ, in whose name we pray, Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Our Father (Creator), who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Assurance of Grace

Communion Prayer

The Sharing of the Bread and Cup

Beloveds, Take and eat. Take and drink. Feed on Christ in your hearts by faith and with thanksgiving that this meal may allow you to see Christ more fully, and draw you closer to him.

Prayer after Communion

Eternal, heavenly, and loving God, You have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ And you have fed us with spiritual good In the Sacrament of his simple table. Send us now into the world in peace, And grant us strength and courage to Live out the extraordinary demands of Christ's love in lives of kindness, humility, and justice toward all. Amen.

Closing Hymn **God of Grace** - New Century Hymnal #436

- 1 God of grace and God of glory, on your people pour your power;
crown your ancient church's story; bring its bud to glorious flower.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the facing of this hour,
for the facing of this hour.
- 2 From the evils that surround us and assail the Savior's ways,
from the fears that long have bound us-free our hearts to faith and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the living of these days,
for the living of these days.
- 3 Cure your children's waring madness; bend our pride to your control.
Shame our reckless, selfish gladness, rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, make our broken spirits whole,
make our broken spirits whole.
- 4 Set our feet on lofty places, gird our lives that they may be,
armored with all Christ-like graces, in the fight to set us free.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, in the quest for liberty,
in the quest for liberty.
- 5 Save us from weak resignation, to the evils we deplore;
let the search for your salvation be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, serving you whom we adore,
serving you whom we adore.

God of Grace and God of Glory

436

Harry Emerson Fosdick, 1930; alt.

1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on your peo - ple
2 From the e - vils that sur - round us and as - sail the
3 Cure your chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; bend our pride to
4 Set our feet on loft - y plac - es; gird our lives that
5 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils

pour your power; crown your an - cient church - 's sto - ry;
Sav - ior's ways, from the fears that long have bound us—
your con - trol. Shame our reck - less, self - ish glad - ness,
they may be ar - mored with all Christ - like grac - es,
we de - plore; let the search for your sal - va - tion

bring its bud to glo - rious flower. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
free our hearts for faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
in the fight to set us free. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
be our glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,

for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.
for the liv - ing of these days, for the liv - ing of these days.
make our bro - ken spir - its whole, make our bro - ken spir - its whole.
in the quest for lib - er - ty, in the quest for lib - er - ty.
serv - ing you whom we a - dore, serv - ing you whom we a - dore.

Benediction

Rev Reebee Girash

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Postlude

Jesus Keep Me Near The Cross

James Southbridge

Source Notes: The Call to Worship is by Desmond Tutu. The Opening Prayer is by Rev. Abi. The prayer of dedication is from *Feasting on the Word Worship Companion*. The Communion Liturgy was written by Thomas A. Mitchell, MDiv Student at Harvard Divinity School and Seminarian at Old South Church, UCC, in Boston.